

NEW YORK TIMES

FEB 21 1964

FOIAb3b

OSWALD BROTHER HEARD AT INQUIRY

Refuses to Comment but Is
Called Cooperative

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20

(UPI) — The elder brother of Lee Harvey Oswald maintained a stony public silence today but was reported to be cooperating as a witness before the special commission investigating the Kennedy assassination.

Both before and after sessions with the commission, Robert Oswald refused to speak to reporters. It was the pattern he has followed since his brother was accused of slaying President Kennedy in Dallas three months ago.

Allen Dulles, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, a member of the commission headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren, told reporters after Mr. Oswald gave his initial testimony that the 28-year-old sales coordinator for a Denton, Tex., brick company had established himself as "a very cooperative witness."

His wife had disclosed that Mr. Oswald had "strong feelings about Lee" but has declined to discuss the matter further.

ings about Lee" but has declined to discuss the matter further.

Tells About Family

Mr. Dulles related that Mr. Oswald had testified about details of his family life with his younger brother, who was slain by a Dallas nightclub owner, Jack Ruby, following the Kennedy assassination.

He was the third member of the Oswald family to appear before the commission. Lee's Soviet-born wife, Marina, and his mother, Mrs. Marguerite Oswald, were heard previously.

Mr. Oswald was one of the few persons to attend his brother's simple funeral, but since then has kept himself, his wife and their two children in seclusion.

Although Marina Oswald has expressed belief that her husband was Kennedy's assassin and the mother has denied it, Robert Oswald has made no public comment.

In the community of Denton where he has lived since September, 1963, Robert is described as quiet but well liked.

For today's hearing, he turned up an hour ahead of schedule to avoid reporters. When he emerged for the lunch break, he strode away hurriedly to escape questioners.

CPYRGHT

CPYRGHT